UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711

15 JUN 1993

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: ET Docket Case 93-59
Office of Engineering and Technology
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Notice of Inquiry (FCC 93-136) regarding the FCC proposal to allocate the 449 MHz band for wind profiler radar systems (wind profilers) and the request for public comment on whether, in addition to 449 MHz, the 915 MHz band should also be allocated for wind profilers.

As a National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) meteorologist assigned to the Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), I support the use of the 915 MHz band for wind profilers and urge the FCC to proceed with allocation. The 915 MHz wind profiler is essential for activities requiring high resolution (100-meters) wind profiling in the lower atmospheric boundary layer - profilers that operate in the 400 MHz range, while useful for weather forecasting purposes, are considerably more expensive, and do not provide sufficient resolution for important air quality applications including, for example, evaluations involving ozone formation and transport. To provide the best overall coverage for the atmospheric boundary layer, both frequencies (449 MHz and 915 MHz) should be allocated for wind profilers.

These views are shared by many of the NOAA meteorologists assigned to EPA and with whom I work. In response to my informal survey at a recent air quality modeler's workshop, 19 of the 22 participants who responded indicated a strong need for the 915

MHz band. On their behalf, I urge you to allocate the 915 MHz band for wind profilers.

Sincerely,

Desmond T. Bailey
Meteorologist
Source Receptor Analysis Branch

cc: J. Irwin
R. Scheffe
J. Tikvart